

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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REPORT

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This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Grains - Rapeseed(Oelssaaten)

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- a. Through the personal intervention of Otto Grotewohl, the confusion and problems pertaining to the Import Plan were, for the most part, resolved about the beginning of April 1954. Accordingly, the final Import Plan provides for the following amounts:

In thousands of tons

	<u>1954</u>	<u>I/54</u>	<u>II/54</u>	<u>III/54</u>	<u>IV/54</u>
Wheat	332	117.3	155	30	29.7
(from the USSR, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, and China)					
Rye	560	57.1	300	160	42.9
(USSR)					
Barley	400	43.8	57.7	110	188.5
(from the USSR and Bulgaria; brewing barley from Czechoslovakia, Sweden, England, Denmark and Argentina)					
Oats	70	13.8	16.2	-	40
(from the USSR)					
Corn	63	21.2	20	-	21.8
(from the USSR, Hungary, and Rumania)					
Soybeans	170	39.2	68.5	41.3	21
(from China)					
Shelled peanuts	30	-	18	3	9
(from China)					

- b. The original 1954 Economic Plan provided for 1,164,000 metric tons of fodder grains. The present Import Plan, however, includes only 683,000 metric tons. 300,000 metric tons of soybeans and 50,000 metric tons of shelled peanuts were originally planned; these amounts have been reduced to 170,000 and 30,000

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metric tons, respectively. The planned subcontract work in West Germany for the processing of 140,000 metric tons of soybeans will be impossible in view of the reduced amount of rapeseed imports.

- c. On 22 May 1954, a meeting took place in the office of Eckhardt of the State Committee for Material Procurement, at which representatives from the Ministry for Internal and Foreign Trade, DIA-Nahrung, Ministry of Food Industry, and the State Secretariat for the Collection and Purchase of Agricultural Products were present. It was decided at this time that the Ministry for Internal and Foreign Trade should give precedence to the importation of brewing malt from capitalistic countries, to overcome the critical shortage of beer caused by the insufficient production of brewing barley in East Germany and the nonrealization of planned imports of brewing barley.
- d. Soviet wheat was of a poor quality. It has a low gluten content and showed the results of extensive damage by insects.
- e. The planned amounts of fodder grains from the USSR could not be delivered. As a result of Grotewohl's intervention, however, it was arranged that Bulgaria take over the fodder grain commitments of the USSR for the second quarter of 1954. The USSR will repay Bulgaria from the new harvest. The fodder deliveries from Bulgaria will be taken from the Bulgarian state reserves. Russia, however, refused to supply any fodder from her own reserves. Kurt Gregor, Minister of Internal and Foreign Trade, was responsible for seeing that East Germany receive sufficient fodder grain deliveries in 1955 to enable her to triple the amount of her state reserves.

2. Potatoes

The Minister for Trade and Supply, Curt Wach, has set 135,000 metric tons of potatoes as the absolute minimum for supplying the population in the first half of 1954. State Secretary Hermann Streif of the State Secretariat for the Collection and Purchase of Agricultural Products is to present a realistic estimate of the amount of potatoes which can be obtained by the collection and purchase program. 20,000 metric tons have been estimated as the yield in the first quarter of 1954 (actually the yield as of 10 May 1954 amounted to only 18,000 metric tons). Only 45,000 metric tons of eating potatoes can be expected from the 225,000 tons which were issued as seed crop. The remaining 70,000 necessary to fill the minimum requirements are lacking. The Ministerial Council decided to make available 50,000 tons of potatoes. Also, 20,000 metric tons of potatoes were imported from England.

- b. The following table of credit weights was established for the delivery of early and mid-season potatoes:

100 kgs of Potatoes delivered by

25 June 1954	received a credit weight of 140 kgs
30 June 1954	" " " " 135 "
5 July 1954	" " " " 130 "
10 July 1954	" " " " 125 "
20 July 1954	" " " " 120 "
10 August 1954	" " " " 115 "
31 August -	
10 September	
1954	" " " " 110 "

3. Livestock, Milk and Eggs

- a. No sausage or beef has been available in Berlin since 16 May 1954. Butter and eggs are also scarce. These shortages are the result of the holding back on the part of the East German Government for the Deutschlandtreffen, and the completely unsatisfactory fulfillment of the plan figures for live-

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stock, eggs and milk. Planned and actual figures for livestock, milk and eggs follow: (Actual figures represent the status as of 10 May 1954)

	<u>Planned</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Beef	163,000 metric tons	78,400 metric tons
Pork	401,300 " "	159,134 " "
Milk	2,038,000 " "	1,065,489 " "
Eggs	562,000,000 eggs	319,259,000 eggs

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